AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 - 21 (canceled)

22. (currently amended): A transdermal therapeutic system comprising a detachable protective layer; a pressure-sensitive adhesive reservoir layer comprising at least one active substance; and a backing layer comprising unidirectional elastic material having an elasticity of at least 20%, wherein the material is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ a woven fabric ~~and a nonwoven fabric~~, and wherein said reservoir layer contains a water-absorbing polymer.

23. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer is a coating of pressure-sensitive adhesive.

24. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the system is a patch.

25. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer comprises longitudinally elastic material.

26. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the elasticity of the backing layer is less than 150%.

27. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer projects beyond the reservoir layer on all sides.

28. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 23 further comprising a separating layer between the reservoir layer and the backing layer.

29. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the elastic material of the backing layer has an elasticity of between 20-80%.

30. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 29 wherein the elastic material of the backing layer has an elasticity of between 40-70%.

31. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 30 wherein the elastic material of the backing layer has an elasticity of between 44-56%.

32. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the material comprising the backing layer is more than 90% microbially nondegradable.

33. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 32 wherein the material comprising the backing layer is more than 99% microbially nondegradable.

34. (canceled)

35. (original) The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene, a polypropylene and a polyester.

36. (original) The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 35 wherein the backing layer comprises a polyalkylene terephthalate.

37. (original) The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 36 wherein the backing material is a polyterephthalic diester.

38. (previously presented) The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 37 wherein the backing material is a polyterephthalic acid diol ester obtainable by the reaction of a starting material selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, 1,4-butanediol, 1,4-dihydroxymethylcyclohexane, terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid, adipic acid, azelaic acid, sebacic acid, dimethyl terephthalate, dimethyl azelate, dimethyl sebacate, bisphenol A diglycidyl ether, n-decane-1, 10-dicarboxylic acid, polyethylene glycol, and polybutylene glycol.

39. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the reservoir layer comprises at least one active substance selected from the group consisting of a psychopharmaceutical, an analgesic and a hormone.

40 - 41. (canceled)

42. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the water-absorbing polymer is a polyvinylpyrrolidone.

43. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 42 wherein the polyvinylpyrrolidone has a molecular weight in the range of 1×10^3 to 2×10^6.

44. (previously presented) The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer facing outwardly has a differentiated marking element.

45. (original) The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 44 wherein the marking element is a colored marking.

46. (original) The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 45 wherein the colored marking is in strip form or a colored thread.

47. (original) The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 44 wherein the marking element has an elasticity of between –20% to +20% relative to the elasticity of the remaining portion of the backing layer.

48. (original) The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer has a water vapor permeability of at least 0.1 $g/m^2/h$.

49. (original) The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 48 wherein the backing layer has a water vapor permeability of between 1 to 20 $g/m^2/h$.

50 - 52. (canceled)

53. (original): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer has a number of warp threads in the range from 300 to 350 per 10 cm of unextended fabric.

54. (original): A method of treating pain or drug dependency comprising administering an active substance in the transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22.

55. (original): A method of treating pain or drug dependency comprising administering an active substance in the transdermal therapeutic system of claim 39.

56. (canceled)

57. (previously presented): A method of producing the transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 comprising the steps of inserting pressure-sensitive adhesive substance reservoir sections in a sequence in a longitudinal direction into a presupplied strip-like laminate comprising a detachable protective layer and a backing layer comprising a unidirectional backing material; separating the backing layer by punching; removing the unwanted cut portion of the backing layers; and separating the protective layer in the space between the active substance reservoir sections.

58. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a woven fabric, a nonwoven fabric and a film.

59. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 39 wherein the active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of oestriol, buprenorphine and a parasympathomimetic.

60. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 59, wherein the parasympathomimetic active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of choline esters, alkaloids and choline esterase inhibitors.

61. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 60, wherein the choline esters are selected from the group consisting of acetylcholine, bethanechol, carbachol and methacholine.

62. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 60, wherein the alkaloids are selected from the group consisting of arecholine and its derivatives and pilocarpine.

63. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 60, wherein the choline esterase inhibitors are selected from the group consisting of demacarium bromide, distigmine bromide, neostigmine, physostigmine, pyridostigmine bromide and galanthamine.

64. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 60 wherein the parasympathomimetic active ingredients are used in combination with each other.

65. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 58 wherein the fabric or film comprises pores having a size less than or equal to 400 μm^2 embracing an areal proportion of between 10% and 50% of said fabric or film.

66. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 58 wherein the fabric has a number of warp threads in the range of 300 to 350 per cm of unextended fabric and a number of weft threads in the range from 100 to 140 per 10 cm of unextended fabric.

67. (previously presented): The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 66 wherein the number of weft threads is in the range from 120 to 130.

68. (previously presented): A method of treating pain or drug dependency comprising administering an active substance in the transdermal therapeutic system of claim 59.

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